

REMARKS

Claims 10-19 and 24-43 are now pending¹ in this application. Claims 20-23 have been cancelled without prejudice. Dependent Claims 24-43 have been added. The specification has also been amended. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration.

As noted above, Claims 24-43 have been added. Support for these claims can at least be found in Fig. 1 and at page 6, lines 5-8 and 17-20, page 13, lines 2-5 and 10-13, and page 18, lines 1-2.

In the Office Action, Claims 10-19 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent application 08/914,440. Applicants note that the 08/914,440 application issued as U.S. Patent number 6,157,848.

A terminal disclaimer is filed herewith to overcome this double patenting rejection.

Claims 20-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,961,212 (Marui et al.). Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Marui et al. in view of U.S. Patent 5,222,121 (Shimada).

Cancellation of Claims 20-23 renders their rejections moot.


In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants

¹ It is noted that Claims 2-9 were cancelled in the filing papers of the present application and Claim 1 was cancelled in a Preliminary Amendment dated January 31, 2001.

respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' attorney may be reached by telephone at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

It is hereby certified that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:

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On June 3, 2002
By Elissa De Luccy

Appendix of Amendments

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, paragraph 1:

This application is a continuation of application 08/914,440, filed August 19, 1997, now U.S. Patent 6,157,848, which is a continuation of application 08/216,009, filed March 22, 1994, now U.S. Patent 5,659,597, which is a continuation of application 07/867,873, filed April 13, 1992, now U.S. Patent 5,297,183.